

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

COME-00 AGR-10 OFA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-04 INT-05

IO-10 /106 W

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R 291655Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5735

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1217

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS IC UK

SUBJECT: GOI NEGOTIATORS VOICE UNHAPPINESS OVER OUTCOME OF
LONDON TALKS

REF: LONDON 16391

1. PUBLIC COMMENT THUS FAR BY MEMBERS OF ICELANDIC DELEGATION TO
LAST WEEK'S FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS IN LONDON HAS BEEN LARGELY
NEGATIVE WITH ONE INFLUENTIAL DELEGATE FLATLY PREDICTING NEW COD
WAR.

2. FONMIN EINAR AGUSTSSON, WHO LED ICELANDIC TEAM, REFUSED TO
DISCUSS PUBLICLY SPECIFICS OF TALKS, BUT TOOK GLOOMY VIEW OF
PROSPECTS FOR EARLY SETTLEMENT. IN MORGUNBLADID INTERVIEW,
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AGUSTSSON SAID, "I HAD HOPED BRITISH WOULD COME OUT OF THEIR

SHELL AND GIVE US AN IDEA OF WHAT THEY WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH, BUT THEY DIDN'T DO IT." ASKED IF AGREEMENT WERE POSSIBLE BY END OF YEAR, IF NOT BY NOVEMBER 13, AGUSTSSON EXPRESSED HOPE THAT BRITISH WOULD EVENTUALLY FACE FACT THAT FISHING IN ICELAND'S WATERS MUST BE GREATLY REDUCED AND LOWER THEIR DEMANDS ACCORDINGLY. GUNNAR THORODDSEN, SENIOR INDEPENDENCE PARTY MEMBER OF GOI DELEGATION, TOOK SOMEWHAT MORE POSITIVE PUBLIC VIEW, SAYING THAT TALKS WERE USEFUL IN THAT ICELAND GOT CHANCE TO FULLY SET FORTH ITS POSITION. HOWEVER, HE DECLINED TO COMMENT ON LIKELIHOOD OF REACHING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

3. IN ONLY EDITORIAL REACTION TO LATEST TALKS, TIMINN EDITOR AND ALTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN THORARINN THORARINSSON, WHO WAS MEMBER OF DELEGATION, WROTE OCTOBER 28, "IT MAY NOW BE CONSIDERED CERTAIN THAT NEW COD WAR BETWEEN BRITISH AND ICELANDERS WILL NOT BE AVERTED. AFTER DISCUSSIONS IN LONDON LAST WEEK, IT IS LESS LIKELY THAN EVER THAT AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED BEFORE NOVEMBER 13..."
MARTIN

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